

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claims 2 and 10 without prejudice or admission and amend claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous listings and versions of claims.

1. (currently amended) A wristwatch case comprising: an outer case attachable to a wrist band; ~~and~~ an inner case for housing a timepiece movement, the inner case being mounted to the outer case so as to be movable in a vertical direction relative to the outer case between upper and lower stop positions and rotatable relative to the outer case; and a ring fixedly mounted within an opening in the inner case and having a rotation mechanism on a circumferential surface thereof for engaging the outer case when the inner case is in the lower stop position to prevent rotation of the inner case relative to the outer case and to permit rotation of the inner case relative to the outer case when the inner case is in the upper stop position.

2. (canceled).

3. (currently amended) A wristwatch case according to claim 1; further comprising an elastic member ~~extending~~ disposed between the inner case and the outer case for

~~stopping movement of~~ holding the inner case at the upper stop position and ~~lower stop positions~~ by interfering with a protrusion of the inner case.

4. (currently amended) A wristwatch case according to claim 2 1; wherein the ring has a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart rotation mechanisms.

5. (canceled).

6. (currently amended) A wristwatch case according to claim 2 1; wherein the outer case has a concave-convex gear portion, and the ring has a portion elastically engageable with the concave-convex gear portion when the inner cases is in the upper stop position to impart a click feel to the inner case during rotational movement thereof.

7. (canceled).

8. (currently amended) A wristwatch case according to claim 1; further including a deformable elastic member held by the outer case and projecting toward the inner case, the elastic member having a normal non-deformed state and being elastically deformed by a protrusion of the inner case during upward movement of the inner case from the lower stop position to the upper stop position following which the elastic member returns to its non-deformed state and engages with an

underside of the protrusion to hold the inner case in the upper stop position. ~~wherein the inner case is disposed within an opening provided in the outer case.~~

9. (currently amended) A wristwatch case according to claim 1; wherein the inner case and the outer case have protrusions contact portions engageable with one another to limit for limiting an extent of upward vertical movement of the inner case ~~between the upper and lower stop positions.~~

10. (canceled).

11. (previously presented) A watch case comprising: an outer case; an inner case movably mounted on the outer case for sliding movement between upper and lower stop positions and for rotational movement when the inner case is in the upper stop position; and a ring fixedly mounted within an opening defined by the inner case and extending circumferentially around the inner case, the ring having one or more first portions engageable with the outer case to prevent rotational movement of the inner case when the inner case is in the lower stop position, and one or more second portions engageable with the inner case to cause the ring to undergo upward sliding movement when the inner case moves from the lower stop position to the upper stop position.

12. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; wherein the ring has one or more third portions elastically engageable with a concave-convex portion of the outer case when the inner case is in the upper stop position to impart a click feel to the inner case during rotational movement thereof.

13. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 12; wherein the ring has a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart first portions, second portions and third portions.

14. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 12; wherein the one or more third portions each comprises an elastic protrusion.

15. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; wherein the ring has a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart first portions and a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart second portions.

16. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; wherein the ring has one or more projections each received in a hole formed in the inner case to prevent rotation of the ring relative to the inner case.

17. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; wherein the one or more first portions of the ring each comprise a toothed portion engageable with a concave-convex portion of the outer case.

18. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 17; wherein the concave-convex portion of the outer case is located on a portion of the outer case extending into the opening defined by the inner case, and each toothed portion of the ring is located on an inner periphery of the ring.

19. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 18; wherein the one or more second portions of the ring each comprise a lip portion engageable with a circumferentially extending wall portion of the inner case.

20. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 19; wherein each toothed portion of the ring protrudes radially inwardly and each lip portion of the ring protrudes radially outwardly.

21. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 20; wherein the ring has one or more third portions elastically engageable with a concave-convex portion of the outer case when the inner case is in the upper stop position

to impart a click feel to the inner case during rotational movement thereof.

22. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 21; wherein the one or more third portions of the ring each comprise an elastic protrusion which protrudes radially inwardly.

23. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 22; wherein the ring has a plurality of first, second and third portions.

24. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 23; wherein the third portions are alternately disposed around the circumference of the ring with respect to the first and second portions.

25. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 24; wherein the first and second portions of the ring are disposed on lower and upper sides, respectively, of a plane passing through the ring.

26. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; wherein the first and second portions are disposed at the same circumferential locations around the circumference of the ring.

27. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 26; wherein the first and second portions of the ring are disposed on lower and upper sides, respectively, of a plane passing through the ring.

28. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; wherein the ring is elastic.

29. (previously presented) A watch case according to claim 11; further comprising a timepiece movement disposed in the inner case.